

NEWS and NOTES

NATIONAL • STATE • COUNTY

ALAMEDA

Dr. Theodore C. Lawson of Oakland has been elected president of the Alameda County Medical Association for the fiscal year ending November, 1947. **Dr. Lawson**, formerly vice-president, succeeds **Dr. Warren B. Allen** of Oakland. **Dr. William Donald** was elected vice-president, and **Dr. Dorothy Allen** was reelected secretary-treasurer. Elected to the house of delegates of the California State Medical Association were Drs. C. J. Atwood, Chesley Bush, Ergo Majors, William Reich, T. E. Reynolds, and Stanley Truman.

FRESNO

A new medical office has been opened in Dinuba by **Dr. Victor Badertscher**. **Dr. Badertscher**, a graduate of Western Reserve University School of Medicine, spent about four years in the Navy, serving in the southwest Pacific and in hospitals in this country.

LOS ANGELES

Dr. Adele R. Eiler has been appointed acting director of the bureau of maternal and child hygiene of the Los Angeles County Health Department. The appointment follows the retirement of **Dr. Anna E. Rude**, director of this bureau for the past 17 years.

Dr. Malcolm C. Todd has become associated with **Dr. F. B. Settle** in the practice of general surgery. Their offices are located in the Professional Building, Long Beach.

Dr. Carl Eno Lund, who formerly had offices in North Hollywood, has moved to 4402 Riverside Drive, Burbank.

Dr. Howard E. West, chairman of the medical advisory board of the Los Angeles County General Hospital, has been appointed medical director of the County Department of Charities. In the newly created position, **Dr. West** will have full responsibility for establishing and maintaining the medical policy of all hospitals under the jurisdiction of the County Charities Department.

RIVERSIDE

Dr. James B. Oliver and **Dr. P. A. Staley** have announced the association with themselves of **Dr. William H. Elliott, Jr.**, in the practice of general surgery. The group occupies offices at 648 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs.

SACRAMENTO

The Sacramento County division of the American Cancer Society has announced the opening of a consultation clinic in the Sutter Hospital early in January. The consultation clinic, an organized department of the hospital staff, will meet regularly to examine cancer patients, including those having or suspected of having cancer, and to consider their diagnosis and treatment. The clinic will be conducted by a board consisting of one or more surgeons, gynecologists, pathologists, radiologists and internists, with consultants from other specialties dealing with cancer.

The Sacramento Medical Society will supervise the clinic, which will be open to all doctors in Northern California and to all patients regardless of financial status.

Dr. Godfrey Steinert, Mayor of Isleton, has moved into new offices which occupy the eastern section of the recently completed Lewallen Building in Isleton.

SAN FRANCISCO

Dr. Karl M. Bowman, professor of psychiatry in the University of California Medical School, has been appointed to the committee on neuropsychiatry, division of medical sciences, of the National Research Council. **Dr. Bowman**, past president of the American Psychiatric Association, is director of the Langley Porter Clinic on the San Francisco campus of the University.

Dr. Norman Reider has been appointed chief of the Psychiatric Clinic at Mount Zion Hospital in San Francisco. **Dr. Reider** succeeds the late **Dr. J. S. Kasamin** who organized the clinic in 1939. He was recently released by the Army Medical Corps, in which he served as chief of the Neuropsychiatry Section at Halloran General Hospital, New York, and later as chief of medical service. A graduate of Western Reserve University, where he took his degree in medicine in 1932, **Dr. Reider** has served as resident neurologist at Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York, resident in neuropsychiatry at the Menninger Clinic, Topeka, Kansas, and as director of the Topeka Municipal Neuropsychiatry Clinic. He was in private practice in Los Angeles before entering the Army.

Cited for "distinguished services rendered to Belgium and unusual resourcefulness as an administrator of public health," **Dr. J. C. Geiger**, San Francisco director of public health, in November was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Royal Order of Leopold the Second, which was conferred upon him by the Prince Regent of Belgium through the Belgian ambassador to the United States.

Dr. Sterling Bunnell, San Francisco surgeon, last month was awarded the Army's highest civilian award, the Medal of Merit, for outstanding war work in reconstructive surgery.

SAN MATEO

One of the first cancer consultation clinics in California is now open at Mills Hospital, San Mateo. The clinic, sponsored by the San Mateo County Medical Association, will be financially supported by subsidies granted by the American Cancer Society from its cancer campaign fund. Establishment of the clinic is part of a state-wide program of the American Cancer Society in organizing tumor clinics for consultation purposes in California's private hospitals.

SANTA CLARA

Reappointment of **Dr. Charles L. Ianne** as director of the tuberculosis sanitarium at the county hospital was made by the Santa Clara County Board of Su-

pervisors. Dr. Ianne resigned from the position in 1943, after serving 13 years, to accept an appointment in the department of hygiene at Stanford University. He was reappointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Gerald C. Scarborough, who will enter private practice.

YOLO

Dr. J. L. Porter, who retired from the Yolo General Hospital December 31, will be succeeded by Dr. F. J. Peters, a former United States medical officer and Dr. Porter's assistant.

GENERAL NEWS

Dr. Edward S. Rogers, assistant commissioner for medical administration of the New York State Department of Health, has been appointed dean of the University of California School of Public Health.

California State Health Director Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, has announced the formation of a **Bureau of Chronic Diseases** to coordinate the medical battle against cancer, heart trouble, diabetes and other such ailments. The bureau's aim is to see that available means of treating these diseases are used to their fullest extent. The first job of the bureau, Dr. Halverson said, will be to inaugurate a **program for cancer** consisting of a survey by counties of available facilities for diagnosing and treating cancer; the setting up of a cancer statistics service for hospitals and clinics, and the establishment of programs of special training for physicians, nurses and other public health workers concerned with cancer. The bureau will be directed by Dr. Lester Breslow.

Two Californians have received appointments to the staff of the **Associated Medical Care Plans**, a national coordinating agency sponsored by the American Medical Association with Chicago headquarters. Frank E. Smith, Los Angeles professional relations director for California Physicians' Service in Southern California, has been appointed director of the A.M.C.P., and William M. Bowman, executive director of C.P.S., will serve as vice-president of a 12-man committee for the organization.

Colonel Bert S. Thomas of Sacramento, former medical director for Selective Service in California, has been appointed medical director for the **State Department of Employment**, it was recently announced by James G. Bryant, chairman of the California Employment Stabilization Commission. Colonel Thomas, who has been a practicing physician and surgeon in Sacramento since 1920, will supervise the medical phases of the administration of the new **disability insurance program** which becomes operative December 1. He will have headquarters in Sacramento.

The **American Urological Association** is offering an annual award not to exceed \$500 for an essay (or essays) on the result of some clinical or laboratory research in Urology. Competition shall be limited to urologists who have been in such specific practice for not more than five years and to residents in urology in recognized hospitals. **Full particulars** may be had from the Secretary, Dr. Thomas D. Moore, 899 Madison Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. Essays must be in his hands before May 1, 1947. The selected essay will appear on the program of the meeting of the

American Urological Association, to be held at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, June 30-July 3, 1947.

Urgent appeal for medical personnel for overseas service is voiced by the Christian Medical Council for Overseas Work. There is need, the Council says, for surgeons and physicians for general hospitals and for specialists in various branches for teaching centers in every quarter of the globe.

"Applicants," the Council says, "should be members of one of the regular Protestant denominational churches and imbued with a spirit of Christian service. The **average pay** is approximately \$80 a month for a single person, double for married couples; which, together with certain allowances (children's, etc.) and the provision of living quarters, permits of a fairly high level of living in the country to which the missionary is appointed."

Communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Christian Medical Council for Overseas Work, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

A constitution was adopted, officers were elected and a scientific program conducted at the organization meeting of the **Western Society for Clinical Research** which was held November 1 and 2 in San Francisco. President of the new Society is **Gurth Carpenter**, Los Angeles; vice-president, Mayo Soley, San Francisco; secretary-treasurer, Helen Martin, Los Angeles. Councilors are: Lowell Rantz, San Francisco; Hans Hecht, Salt Lake City; Myron Printzmetal, Los Angeles; Charles McLellan, Salt Lake City; Daniel Green, Seattle; Paul Aggeler, San Francisco.

A **public education campaign** designed to reduce further the rate of mortality and disability from heart disease is being conducted by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Aim is to teach the public what is known about **prevention, early recognition, and care** of cardiac lesions, so that there may be early diagnosis and immediate initiation of treatment. The company says that as a part of the campaign its field representatives, in cooperation with official and voluntary agencies, will reach the homes of millions of policyholders with a recently published pamphlet, "Your Heart," developed in cooperation with the American Heart Association. A lay educational film on heart disease is also being prepared. A packet including material of special interest to doctors will be distributed to physicians, and a scientific exhibit on heart disease, first shown at the A.M.A. meeting in San Francisco, is being made available for state and local professional meetings.

Twelve California physicians are among an additional 122 recently appointed civilian consultants to the Secretary of War through the Surgeon General. **Names of the Californians appointed** and the fields in which they specialize follow: Internal medicine—Dr. John W. Brown and Dr. Dwight L. Wilbur, both of San Francisco; Dr. Verne R. Mason, Los Angeles. Dermatology and Syphilology—Dr. George V. Kulchar, San Francisco. Dermatology—Dr. Edward A. Levin, San Francisco. Aural Rehabilitation—Dr. Grant Fairbanks, Department of Speech, University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Neurosurgery—Dr. Frank W. Lusignan, San Francisco. Urology—Dr. Burton L. Stewart, North Hollywood; Dr. Wil-

liam A. Sumner, San Francisco. Neuropsychiatry—Dr. George S. Johnson, San Francisco. Preventive Medicine and Epidemic Disease—Dr. William McD. Hammon, and Dr. Karl F. Meyer, both of University of California Medical Center, San Francisco.

A program of **postgraduate instruction** through a variety of courses in Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Otorhinolaryngology, Ophthalmology, Psychiatry and Basic Sciences, as well as a course specially designed to meet the needs of general practitioners, will be announced soon by the **University of California Medical School**. The program has been arranged with the cooperation of University Extension, University of California. Announcements will be mailed to all California

physicians and to a large group in neighboring states. Fees for all courses will be covered by the G.I. Bill of Rights.

Two grants-in-aid for the support of **cancer research projects** at the University of Southern California have been recommended to the United States Public Health Service by the National Advisory Cancer Council. One of the recommendations was for \$5,985 to finance research in the chemical characterization of split protein products from the blood of cancer patients, under the direction of **Dr. Richard J. Winzler**. The other, \$3,002, was for electrophoresis studies of blood and urine proteose and plasma and urinary protein in myelomas, under the direction of **Dr. John W. Mohl**.

INFORMATION

Trend Toward Voluntary Health Insurance

Newly published findings of the Assembly Health Care Investigating Committee, that Californians favor voluntary pre-paid health insurance over compulsory health insurance by a ratio of over $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, amount to confirmation of a diagnosis made by the medical profession.

As late as two years ago, a prior State-wide survey of public opinion showed an almost even division on the matter—nearly 50 per cent approving compulsory health insurance. Of these, however, some 20 per cent said they would prefer the voluntary type of protection if it were available. That was significant! Sound voluntary health insurance plans were many and widespread—hospital plans, protection offered by health and accident insurance companies, the medical profession's California Physicians' Service, etc. Apparently a great many people wanted such services but were unaware of their existence or ready availability.

Banking on the diagnosis that lack of factual information, rather than public confidence in the theory of socialized medical service, was reflected in survey statistics, the medical profession undertook an educational campaign on an intensive, community-by-community basis.

Through newspapers, radio and other media of public information, California's doctors set forth, side by side, the records of State medicine as compiled in nations where it has been imposed by law upon the profession and the public, and the records of voluntary health insurance services in America. They proved that there is nothing the State can do for people in this field that they cannot do for themselves far better and at far less cost.

And now, two years later, a survey blanketing California shows 76 per cent of the population favors voluntary membership in health insurance programs, while the percentage favoring compulsory health insurance has dwindled to less than 22 per cent.

The doctors' diagnosis stands confirmed!

LABELING OF BARBITURATES

Anticipating unfavorable reactions on the part of both patients and physicians to the labeling of barbiturate prescriptions to comply with government regulations, some pharmacists are tempering the abruptness of the required warning by adding to the label a statement calculated to preserve the relationship of physician to patient.

A Food and Drug Administration regulation requires that refillable barbiturate prescriptions be labeled as habit forming and also with the barbiturate content per unit. To this information, some pharmacists are adding the statement: "Medicine of this type should be taken only for the purpose and for the length of time which your physician prescribed it."

At the time the warning label was ordered by the Food and Drug Administration, pharmacists opposed it on the ground that it might be interpreted by the patient as a reflection on the physician's competence to prescribe the drug. This position was supported by the California Medical Association in a resolution passed by the House of Delegates at its meeting last May.

